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GOVERNMENT SETS UP TWO MECHANIZED FARMS;
 NORTHEAST PROMOTES AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT

MECHANIZED FARMS ESTABLISHED IN WESTERN SUIYUAN -- Hong Kong Hsing-tao Jih-pao, 2 Sep 50

Kuei-sui, 31 August (Hsin-hua) -- The Ministry of Agriculture of the Central People's government is opening two mechanized farms at Sa-la-chi and Pao-t'ou in western Suiyuan Province. The former will have 36,000 mou and the latter about 200,000 mou. About 20,000 mou have already been broken and the plans are for the breaking of 100,000 mou of wild land during 1950. Both projects will be fully mechanized. Twenty-five 45-horsepower and eight 15-horsepower tractors, two self-propelled and 14 tractor-drawn harvesting combines, large numbers of seed-selection machines, mowers, grass shredders, seeders, various types of harrows and plows, and tools for the repair of the above machines have already been provided. About 50 operators and repair men have already been sent in.

Grazing, fishing, and the processing of farm products will also be carried on at these farms.

NORTHEAST BANK MAKES HUGE AGRICULTURAL LOANS -- Tung-pei Jih-pao, 6 Jul 50

The Liaotung Province branch of the Northeast Bank has made available agricultural development loan funds amounting to over 300 billion yuan Northeast Currency. Of this amount, 68.28 percent will be devoted to the development of special items such as foreign hemp, cotton, horticulture, wild silkworm culture, tobacco, and fisheries. In addition, 28.1 percent of the amount is allotted to loans for regular agricultural operations such as purchase of fertilizer, implements, and work animals.

This program is intended to make a much larger amount of raw materials available for industry. This year, 781,000 mou of land are under cotton in the province, which is 11,500 mou more than were under cotton in the area in the peak year (1944) during the Manchukuo regime. Also, 69,000 mou are under foreign hemp this year, which is 13 times more than last year.

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About 62 percent of the funds loaned for general agricultural operations were for ammonium sulfate, some 2,990,000 catties having been distributed.

KIRIN AUTHORITIES PROMOTE WINTER WHEAT CULTURE -- Tung-pei Jih-pao, 15 Jul 50

Kirin -- Under the encouragement of the provincial authorities, the farmers of Kirin Province planted 120,000 mou of winter wheat last autumn. The unfamiliarity of some of the farmers with the crop resulted in the freezing of about 20,000 mou. The rest is promising a fine yield. A province-wide conference of the chiefs of the agricultural sections of the hsien governments was called 3 July to discuss the further expansion of the winter wheat acreage. The conference voted to promote the planting of 915,000 mou in the autumn of 1950. The authorities believe that winter wheat offers many advantages over spring wheat, both in culture and productiveness.

In Sungkiang Province, 1,990,000 mou of winter wheat is almost ready to be harvested and is predicted to yield 80 to 90 percent of a perfect crop. Efforts are also being made in this province to increase the acreage.

BUMPER POTATO CROP IN LU-TA AREA -- Dairen Lu-ta Jen-min Jih-pao, 16 Jul 50

The potato crop in the various hsiens of the Lu-ta (Port Arthur-Dairen) area is reported yielding from 800 to 1,000 kilograms per mou. This is about three times last year's yield.

LU-TA FISHERIES EXCEED QUOTA -- Dairen Lu-ta Jen-min Jih-pao, 16 Jul 50

The fishing industry in the Lu-ta area exceeded its quota for the first 6 months of 1950. Various kinds of sea products taken amounted to 3,467 tons, 33 percent above the target.

CENTRAL AND SOUTH CHINA PLANTS HUGE COTTON CROP -- Shanghai Ta Kung Pao, 15 Jul 50

Hankow, 14 July (Special) -- The area planted in cotton in Central and South China amounts to 10 million mou and a yield of 3 million piculs of raw cotton is expected. This is a third more than last year's yield.

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